

unique, effective ways. Serving an educational institution is truly a noble calling and Ross' 32 years of service are truly a remarkable accomplishment. Thank you, Ross, for the service you have provided our community. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2691) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this Amendment, which would provide much needed funding increases for the National Endowments for the Arts and the Humanities. These organizations provide national recognition and support to projects of cultural significance and education that preserve and enhance our Nation's heritage.

The importance of supporting and sustaining the arts is especially critical for our young people, who perform much better in school when their academic programs are combined with music, dance, drama or the visual arts. In fact, the No Child Left Behind Act specifically lists the arts as one of the core subjects that all schools should teach.

But ensuring adequate support for the arts is not simply about providing cultural enrichment or enhancing educational opportunities. It is also about ensuring the economic well-being of our communities. The nonprofit arts industry alone generates \$134 billion annually in economic activity and \$10.5 billion in federal tax revenue.

The National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities are worthwhile investments of our federal tax dollars, and I strongly support the Slaughter-Dicks amendment to increase their funding by \$15 million.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLLYWOOD HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hollywood Heights Fire Department.

In December, 1952, a group of local men decided that the area needed a Fire Department. The first charter members, Jack Frost, John Hurt, Roy Reynolds, Neal Butler, W. Gebbard, John Sharp, Jack Caldwell, Bob Williams, Oma Rust, Walter Leicht and Guy Anderson went door-to-door and business-to-business asking for donations to start a new

Fire Department to serve the Hollywood Heights community.

On August 26, 1953, the Hollywood Heights Volunteer Fire Department was officially formed. Several of the Department's charter members put their own homes up for collateral to purchase the first fire truck for the department, which was a 1953 International. While this new truck was being built, Towers Fire Apparatus let the department borrow a 1937 Studebaker Fire Truck, which contained a 300-gallon water holding tank.

Hollywood Heights' first Fire House was located at the Community Center next to Hollywood Heights School from 1953 until 1955. The Department held picnics and bake sales to purchase the present property and a two bay building. A larger two bay building was built in 1963 to allow for additional space, which provided a meeting room, offices and expanded bay areas for the rescue and brush fire truck.

In 1976, the department started holding a bingo on Monday nights at the Madison County Fireman's Hall. The department had to borrow the money to start the bingo from a local businessman. This fund raising program has grown into the department's biggest source of income and has paid for another addition to the Fire House in 1976 and the purchase of trucks and additional equipment that are in use today.

The department has continued to remain an active part of the Hollywood Heights community. The department sponsors a free Easter egg hunt, holiday pictures with Santa Claus, various fire fighting demonstrations and donations to the Hollywood Heights Elementary School, the Shriners Hospital and the Caseyville Food Pantry.

Today, the department has over 25 members with a ladder truck, two front line pumpers, one rescue truck, one Brush/Mini pumper and an in-house cascade system to meet the department's needs. They continue to add modern state-of-the-art fire fighting equipment to the department and play a major part in their community and the area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Hollywood Heights Volunteer Fire Department and recognize the great work that it does in the community to benefit the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JEREMY KOSELAK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to recognize an outstanding educator from my district. Jeremy Koselak of Pueblo, Colorado is my state's recipient of the Educator of the Year Award given out by the Colorado Association of Family and Children Agencies. Jeremy was an obvious choice for the award, as he has dedicated his time and efforts to teaching troubled children the skills they need to be successful in life.

Jeremy recently completed his first year at El Pueblo Boys and Girls Ranch, a school designed to help children escape problems that have plagued them in the past. Jeremy teach-

es mathematics, and the difficulty of the subject means many students need special attention. Some need help with general arithmetic and some need help with high school level math, like algebra and geometry. These differences have allowed Jeremy to take a unique approach to general math skills. He tries to incorporate real world applications, such as balancing a checkbook. Jeremy instills a positive work ethic in his students; he makes them believe they can succeed and then helps them to do it.

Jeremy loves his job at El Pueblo, where he develops close relationships with his students. Because the kids come from troubled backgrounds, Jeremy makes himself available as a teacher, friend, and role model. He commonly spends extra time with his students, providing them opportunities they would not otherwise enjoy. He recently took some of his students to the University of Colorado—Colorado Springs to compete in a math competition.

Mr. Speaker, the students at El Pueblo Boys and Girls Ranch include many less fortunate youth, but Jeremy Koselak's innovation and hard work have greatly improved their chance of success in the classroom and in life. Jeremy has made Pueblo and the State of Colorado proud, and I am truly honored to recognize him here today. Congratulations, Jeremy, keep up the good work and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

COMMENDING THE HOLY SPIRIT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS CREW TEAM ON THEIR PEABODY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE HENLEY REGATTA

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the members and coaches of the Holy Spirit High School Girls' Crew Team of Absecon, New Jersey on their winning the coveted Peabody Cup world championship at the 16th Annual Henley Women's Regatta held at Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, England on June 22, 2003. The girls' varsity eight defeated the Kingston Grammar School in the final 1,500 meter race by two boat lengths in a time of five minutes, eighteen seconds. This victory in the final came just hours after Holy Spirit defeated the British national junior champion team in the morning semifinal.

Holy Spirit's proud championship tradition is well-known in the world's rowing community and this team has upheld and enhanced that tradition with their victory this year. They have a direct link with another world championship Holy Spirit crew. Their coach, Joe Welsh, was a member of the Holy Spirit boys' crew team that won a world championship at Henley in 1976. No doubt, the achievements of the girls' varsity eight in the 2003 Henley are a welcome addition to the Holy Spirit championship tradition and will serve to inspire young rowers.

I congratulate Coach Welsh and the members of the Holy Spirit girls' varsity eight—bow Robin Cascoli, Kristen Haneman, Robyn Brennan, Jen Maslanka, Andrea Haneman, Eileen Welsh, Christa Laquinta, stroke Teri Francesco and coxswain Jamie Marccone—on